

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 12159 182133Z

62

ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

AID-05 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01 DODE-00 /063 W

----- 089355

R 181858Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2466

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 12159

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR CO US

SUBJ: WHITE PAPER ON DRUG ABUSE

REF: STATE 253482 AND 292160, QUITO 8744

SUMMARY: THE MISSION NARCOTICS STAFF AND I HAVE REVIEWED THE WHITE PAPER ON DRUG ABUSE AND FIND IT A USEFUL, POSITIVE DOCUMENT. THOUGH WE ARE STILL IN THE PROCESS OF REVIEWING OUR LATEST NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTION PLAN IN LIGHT OF CHANGING LOCAL CONDITIONS, WE BELIEVE THAT OUR NCAP AS IT STANDS FITS WHITE PAPER PRIORITIES. WE HAVE ALSO EXAMINED AMBASSADOR BREWSTER'S THOUGHTFUL COMMUNICATION ON THE WHITE PAPER AND ENDORSE HIS ANALYSIS. BELOW WE OUTLINE BRIEFLY OUR THOUGHTS ON WHITE PAPER FINDINGS AS APPLIED TO COLOMBIAN WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE NEED TO REASSURE LATIN GOVERNMENTS REGARDING OUR PRIORITIES IN DRUG ENFORCEMENT, TO THE EMPHASIS ON MAJOR VIOLATORS, MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCING, INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TO PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES. END SUMMARY

1. PRIORITIES: THE WHITE PAPER RIGHTFULLY GIVES PRIORITY TO SUPPLY AND DEMAND REDUCTION FOR HEROIN, AMPHETAMINES AND MEXED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 12159 182133Z

BARBITURATES. COLOMBIAN AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS

WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO STRESS THE DANGERS OF MARIJUANA USE AND WILL CONSIDER THIS DRUG NEARLY AS DANGEROUS AS HEROIN OR COCAINE. GOC STUDIES INDICATE THAT AMPHETAMINES AND BARTIBURATES, ALONG WITH MARIJUANA ARE THE MOST ABUSED DRUGS IN COLOMBIA. INFORMED COLOMBIANS ARE CONVINCED THAT MARIJUANA RATES PREFENTION/ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS ON A PAR WITH OTHER NARCOTIC SUBSTANCES. THE US TREND TOWARD DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIJUANA IS LIKELY, THEREFORE, TO BE MISUNDERSTOOD HERE AND IN OTHER LATIN STATES. SIMILARLY, THE RELATIVELY LOW RANKING OF COCAINE IN WHITE PAPER PRIORITIES CAN ALSO BE MISINTERPRETED. THE OBVIOUS RECOMMENDATION IS THAT THE ISSUE OF PRIORITIES NEEDS CAREFUL HANDLING IN ORDER TO REASSURE LATINOS THAT WE MEAN WHAT WE SAY IN THE FINE PRINT OF THE WHITE PAPER: VIZ, WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THEM TO ARREST AND CONVICT MAJOR TRAFFICKERS IN EVERY TYPE OF CONTROLLED NARCOTIC SUBSTANCE; THAT NON-HEROIN COUNTRIES WILL GET THEIR SHARE OF ENFORCEMENT AND SUPPORT/FUNDING. THIS IS PARTICULARLY NECESSARY IN COLOMBIA, THE WORLD'S MAJOR SOURCE OF ILLEGAL COCAINE, A SUBSTANCE WHOSE ADDICTIVE QUALITIES WE ADMITTEDLY STILL KNOW LITTLE ABOUT.

2. ENFORCEMENT:

A. WE WELCOME THE WHITE PAPER EMPHASIS ON MAJOR TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS. ACCORDING TO DEA-BOGOTA STATISTICS, THIS OFFICE DEVOTES 89 PERCENT OF ITS BUDGETARY RESOURCES TO MAJOR (CLASS ONE AND TWO) VIOLATORS. WE HOPE THAT WHITE PAPER EMPHASIS ON QUALITY OVER QUANTITY IN ENFORCEMENT WILL TRANSLATE INTO HIGH-LEVEL SUPPORT FOR THIS SORT OF OPERATION WHICH INEVITABLY SACRIFICES THE IMMEDIATE "BUST" FOR LONG-TERM ENFORCEMENT GAINS.

B. WE ARE EQUALLY INTERESTED IN THE WHITE PAPER EMPHASIS -- WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS A NEW EMPHASIS--ON CONSPIRACY INDICTMENTS. GIVEN THE HISTORICAL DIFFICULTIES WE HAVE HAD IN CONVINCING THE GOC TO EXTRADITE ITS CITIZENS TO FACE JUSTICE IN THE US, WE HAVE TAKEN THE CONSPIRACY TACK IN COLOMBIA IN AN EFFORT TO PROSECUTE MAJOR COLOMBIAN NARCOTICS VIOLATORS IN COLOMBIAN USING EVIDENCE COLLECTED IN THE US. THOUGHT COLOMBIA HAS NO CONSPIRACY STATUTE PER SE, OUR PRELIMINARY CONSULTATIONS WITH GOC PROSECUTORS AND JUDGES INDICATES THAT DE FACTO CONSPIRACY PROSECUTIONS USING EVIDENCE DEVELOPED BY US ATTORNEYS ARE POSSIBLE. THE US ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK IS NOW DEVELOPING A TEST CASE ALONG THIS LINE FOR PROSECUTION IN COLOMBIA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 12159 182133Z

C. FINALLY, WE SUPPORT THE WHITE PAPER'S CALL FOR MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES FOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS OF WHATEVER CATEGORY. THE COLOMBIAN DRUG ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS WE DEAL WITH FIND IT INCOMPREHENSIBLE THAT COLOMBIAN NATIONALS CONVICTED IN THE UNITED STATES AND SENTENCED TO LONG PRISON TERMS ARE PAROLED AND DEPORTED BACK TO COLOMBIA AFTER SERVING ONLY A FEW MONTHS OF THEIR SENTENCES. WE RECEIVE MANY COMPLAINTS IN THIS REGARD. WE ARE UNABLE TO GIVE SATISFACTORY EXPLANATIONS. MINIMUM MANDATORY SEN-

TENCING, WE BELIEVE, WOULD SERVE AS ONE MORE IMPORTANT INDICATOR TO THE GOC THAT WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT DRUG ENFORCEMENT.

3. INTELLIGENCE: THOUGH WE RAISED IN OUR NCAP THE QUESTION OF HIGHER RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS TO INTELLIGENCE GATHERING AND ANALYSIS, THE WHITE PAPER RECOMMENDATIONS ARE AMONG THE FIRST FIRM INDICATIONS WE HAVE RECEIVED THAT WASHINGTON WILL PUSH THIS ASPECT OF ENFORCEMENT OVERSEAS, AS WELL AS IN THE UNITED STATES. GIVEN THE LIMITATIONS OF CIA-DEVELOPED INTELLIGENCE IN NARCOTICS PROSECUTIONS, WE WOULD SUPPORT THE IDEA THAT DEA AGENTS IN EACH LATIN AMERICAN MISSION BE ASSIGNED HEAVIER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS, EVEN AT THE EXPENSE OF CARRYING A LIGHTER CURRENT CASE LOAD.

4. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: A KEY OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN DRUG CONTROL--AS WE SEE IT IN THE COLOMBIAN CONTEXT--IS INFORMED PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF ALL FACETS OF THE PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY AS IT AFFECTS THE HOST COUNTRY AND GOVERNMENT. CONVINING COLOMBIANS THAT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE IMPACTS UPON THEM, AND THAT THESE ARE NOT EXCLUSIVELY NORTHAMERICAN PROBLEMS, REQUIRES STRONG USIS PROGRAMMING, AS WELL AS CCINC FUNDING FOR LOCAL DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS. WITH APPROVAL FROM THECCINC, THE MISSION IS NOW DEVOTING A BIT OVER 10 PERCENT OF OUR NARCOTICS CONTROL ALLOCATION IN SUPPORT OF HOME-GROWN PUBLIC EDUCATION DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS. IN THIS, WE RELY UPON THE STRONG PUBLIC RELATIONS AND INFORMATION PROGRAMS DEVELOPED BY USIS-BOGOTA. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THESE PROGRAMS OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY HAVE APPLICABILITY ELSEWHERE IN THE HEMISPHERE AND IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD AS WELL. A SEPARATE AIRGRAM BEING POUCHED NEXT WEEK DESCRIBES THESE PROGRAMS IN DETAIL.

VAKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PERSONAL OPINION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BOGOTA12159
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750441-0018
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751229/aaaaazka.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SNM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 253482, 75 QUITO 8744
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WHITE PAPER ON DRUG ABUSE
TAGS: SNAR, CO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006